

REMARKS

This paper is responsive to the Office Action dated October 23, 2006. Claims 1 - 3 and 5 - 25 are pending in this application. Claims 10 - 12 and 14 - 25 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1 - 3, 5 - 9 and 13 have been rejected on the basis of prior art.

These remarks follow the order of the outstanding Office Action beginning at page 2 thereof.

Claims 1 and 13 - 35 USC § 112

Claims 1 and 13 have been rejected under 35 USC § 112 on the grounds that the language "wherein the cutting edge of said cutter is disposed so as to face the bristles". The Examiner contends that a cutting edge is a one-dimensional object and has no face. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection on the grounds that the Examiner is using the definition of "face" as a noun and not as a verb. Attached hereto is a copy of page from Webster's International Dictionary that shows that even when the term "face" is used in a noun sense, it can describe "the edge of a cutting implement (as a knife)". Therefore, even as a noun, a face can be a cutting edge as claimed. However, Applicant has used the word in the portion of the claims objected to not as a noun, but as a verb. A verb is an action word. The dictionary

attached hereto at the bottom right hand column shows "face" when used as a verb. It may mean "to stand or sit opposite to" or "occupy a position with the face toward". These two definitions combined shows that the face of the knife can be towards something else. The Examiner should note that in the language of the claim, Applicant uses the words "to face". This is a phrase, and "face" cannot be read alone. "To face" is the infinitive form of the verb. For this reason, the claims are clearly not indefinite and Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1 and 13.

Claim Rejection - 35 USC § 102

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 - 3 and 5 and 8 as being anticipated by Scott '348. Scott '348 shows a comb (50) with teeth (56) and teeth openings (58). At the base of the teeth is a plate (52) which moves back and forth in response to power actuation, and the plate cutting edges engage hair or extend beyond the teeth (56) only when the power is actuated to move the plate (52). This can best be seen in Figure 3.

'348 is for a comb, not a brush. Attached hereto is a dictionary definition of "comb" which shows that a comb is "an instrument consisting of a thin strip (as of plastic, metal or bone) with a row of teeth on one or both edges or sides that is used for adjusting, cleaning or confining the hair or for adornment". The Examiner, however, has characterized the

disclosure of '348 not as a comb, but as a brush. However, '348 calls the disclosure an invention "a comb" and the device shown in Scott '348 meets the dictionary definition of a comb, not that of a brush. Also attached hereto is a dictionary definition of the term "brush". Definition three defines a brush as "a hand-operated or power-driven tool or device composed of bristles set into a back or a handle or attached to a roller and designed or adapted for such uses as sweeping, scrubbing, painting, smoothing". This is different than a comb. Nowhere in the definition of brush does one find the word comb.

Applicant's claims 1 - 3, 5 and 8 are all directed to a brush. The Examiner has not met the claim limitation "brush". Still further, Applicant's claim recites "bristles". The '348 patent does not teach or suggest bristles. Instead, it teaches only the teeth of a comb. Attached hereto is a dictionary definition of bristle which is "something resembling a bristle as any of various animal structures similar to hair", "the stiff, short hair of a plant" or "the manufactured material used in the face of a hair brush".

The claim for a bristle simply is not anticipated by a reference which shows a comb tooth. For this reason, the rejection is traversed.

Still further with respect to claim 1, it is required that the cutter have a longitudinal axis provided with a cutting edge set parallel to and facing the longitudinal direction of the

bristles. In '348, the cutters on plate (52) do not face the comb teeth. Instead, they move next to the comb teeth. '348 teaches that the cutting blade (64) is adapted to slide with an opening (60) (column 3, lines 20 - 25). This is best seen in reference to Figure 6 which shows the opening (60). While the blade slides with (60) they are not parallel to and facing the longitudinal direction of the bristles and upright nearby said bristles. Instead, they are inside of the bristles (when not actuated), and travel towards other openings in the bristles when the blade is moved in a cutting direction.

Claims 1 - 3, 7 and 13 - Edwards '549

Edwards, like Scott, teaches a comb, not a brush. Edwards does not include bristles (13). Instead, Edwards teaches teeth (13) as described at column 2, line 30. Metallic teeth used in a comb in accordance with the dictionary definition are clearly not bristles which are defined differently by the dictionaries. For this reason, the rejections based upon Edwards are respectfully traversed.

Still further, the Examiner refers to "upright cutters (24)" of Edwards. However, Edwards does not teach that (24) are cutters. Instead, the cutting edge in Edward is the cutting edge (15) shown in Figure 2 and described at column 2, lines 40 - 45. The blades (24) are not for cutting, they are for pressing the hair against the cutting edges (15) of teeth (13). The principle

of operation of '549 is, therefore, different than Applicant.

'549 uses the moveable blades (24) to press the hair into cutting engagement with various teeth cutting edges (15) over which they pass. On the other hand, Applicant's device utilizes blades which are claimed to be parallel to and facing the longitudinal direction of the bristles and which are upright nearby the bristles. In '549, when the members (24) become upright, cutting no longer occurs because (24) no longer forces the air against the cutting edges (15).

#### Claim 13

At page 3 of the Office Action, line 4 down from the top, the Examiner has stated that, "as not understood, a cutting edge 'faces' a lone bristle". However, as pointed out from the dictionary, the word "face" the claims is used as a verb, and not as a structure. Still further, with respect to claim 13, the Examiner's comment is not understood because claim 13 does not even include the word "faces". Claim 13 depends from claim 1 which was not objected to under 35 USC § 112. This rejection is, therefore, not understood and respectfully traversed.

#### Claim 6 and 9

Claims 6 and 9 are read in combination with claim 1. Claim 6 and 9 require that the cutting edge parallel to and facing the longitudinal direction of the bristles. On the other hand, the

secondary reference Halaby '006 shows an entirely different structure, namely protective devices (13) which provide protection from cutting of blade (11). However, the protect devices (13) are on the upper part of a cutter which is parallel to a bristle. '006, in order to suggest Applicant's claim structure would somehow have to show a protective cover on the end, and not on the blade face as shown. For this reason the rejection of claims 6 and 9 is respectfully traversed.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance, and early action in accordance thereof is requested. In the event there is any reason why the application cannot be allowed in this current condition, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned at the number listed below to resolve any problems by Interview or Examiner's Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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a student's work as so inferior as to be failing  
th more than one F in a major subject may  
a higher grade without a special examination)  
or rated with an F (an F student in history)  
having the shape of the letter F  
op 1 [L fac] make 2 Fahrenheit's 3 failure  
4 farad 7 farthing 8 fathom 9 fathom  
east 12 [L fact] he made 13 fellow 14 fel-  
line 15 fighter 20 [L filius] son 21 filly  
mial 23 fine 24 finish 25 fire 26 firm  
lat 29 fleet 30 florin 31 flower 32 fluid  
34 fog 35 folio 36 following 37 foot  
force 40 forma 41 formed 42 formula  
forward 45 foul 46 fragile 47 fragmenta-  
49 [L frater] brother 50 French 51 fre-  
iar 53 from 54 fuel 55 full 56 function

Faraday 2 cap luminous flux 3 cap filial;  
4 cap fluorine 5 focal length 6 cap folio  
perture of a photographic lens — often written

or fa's [ME, fr. ML, fr. L *famuli* servants, a  
this note in a medieval hymn to St. John the  
fourth tone of the diatonic scale in solmization  
in the fixed-do system  
teffy Scot var of FALL  
lit artillery 2 financial adviser 3 football  
forage acre 5 free alongside 6 free astray  
erage 8 freight agent  
of all average  
tga \ var of FEES  
ted

cap [NL, fr. L, bean — more at BEAN] in some  
a genus of leguminous plants comprising the  
now usu. included in *Vicia*

base \ n pl, cap [NL, fr. *Faba*, type genus +  
classifications : a large nearly cosmopolitan  
prises the peas, beans, and related herbaceous  
is with pealike flowers and a legume as fruit  
usu. included in the family Leguminosae  
Eshesh \ adj [LL *fabaceus*, fr. L *Faba* bean +  
1 : of or relating to the Leguminosae : LEGU-  
minating to, like, or being a bean  
[prob. alter. of ME *the* bramble, gooseberry,  
JERRY] dial Brit : GOOSEBERRY 1a  
do \ n, pl fabel-lae -e, iē [NL, dim. of L  
fibrocartilage ossified in many animals and  
in the tendon of the gastrocnemius muscle,  
both of the femoral condyles  
Een \ adj, usu cap [L *fabianus*, fr. Quintus  
is Cunctator †203 B.C. Roman dictator and  
usu. cap] 1 a : of relating to, or in the manner  
general Quintus Fabius Maximus who defeated  
e Second Punic War by avoiding decisive con-  
tessing him by marches and countermarches  
servative and cautious in making advances or  
thian (Society); fr. the members' belief in slow  
an revolutionary change in government] : being  
relating to a society of socialists organized in  
34 to spread socialist principles gradually  
s usu cap : a member of or sympathizer with  
ity of socialists  
Pana -u also -ā -n, cap [NL, after Francisco  
1801 Span. archbishop and naturalist] : a  
like evergreen shrubs (family Solanaceae) of  
America that have numerous small white or  
r flowers and are sometimes cultivated in the  
e or in the open in frost-free areas  
fabēnizām \ n -s usu cap : the doctrines or e  
e Fabian socialists  
o, form \ adj [L *Faba* bean + E -form] : shaped

n -s [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *fabula* conversation,  
play, fable, fr. *fari* to speak, say —  
fictitious narrative or statement : an invented  
as : UNTRUTH, FALSEHOOD (the ~s and  
ons of this pamphlet) b : a story of super-  
ly marvelous happenings (as in legend, myth, or  
a narration intended to enforce some useful  
pt; esp : one in which animals and even in-  
speak and act like human beings (the ~ of the  
yard) — see BEAST FABLE d : casual, idle, or  
r talk (old wives' ~s); broadly : common talk  
a : fable : something (as a mysterious event)  
abulous accounts or explanations; broadly : a  
ar talk and speculation (he became the chief ~  
b : a product of fable : something having reality  
s accounts (if personal immortality is not a ~)  
ory, or connected series of events forming the  
ary work (as an epic poem or play) SYN see  
TON

bled; fabled; fabling \ -b(ə)lɪŋ \ fables [ME  
bler, fr. L *fabulari* to talk, fr. *fabula* 1 a : to  
fictitious tales b obs : to talk idly 2 archaic  
peak what is not true : utter falsehoods : lie  
e and recort : if real : report : if fabled : if  
d that Norsemen built the tower) (the bird of  
bled to have no feet) (how he fell from Heaven  
ohn Milton)  
: told or mentioned in fable : MYTHICAL  
: having no real existence : FICTITIOUS (~

l)st \ n -s : a teller or writer of fables : FAB-

(r) \ n -s [ME, fr. MF *abieur*, fr. *fabler* + -eur

o] also fa-bean \ fa'biə \ n, pl fabi-lae -ae  
-o(ə) [F, fr. OF *fablet*, *fablaue*, *fabliu*, dim.  
ort metable esp. in a type composed chiefly by  
ad about the lower classes; also : the genre of  
ies being usu. comic, frankly coarse, and often  
their treatment of women  
3, fr. gerund of *fablen* to fable) : an act of one  
MANCING, PREVARICATION  
a \ n, cap [NL, prob. after Jean H. Fabre †1915  
st] : a genus of ascomycetous fungi (family  
st includes several leaf parasites with multi-  
res  
k, -rēk \ n -s [MF *fabrique*, fr. *fabriquer* to L  
L *fabricari*, fr. *fabrica* artisan's workshop,  
th object, building — more at FORGE] 1 a : a  
ding (as a house or ship) (four high houses . .  
-dwellers call ~s — Daniel Corkery) b : un-  
re : FRAMEWORK (the work of restoring the  
ter Abbey — Conrad Voss Bark) (the very  
~ whether the political ~ had the strength to  
S.E. Morrison & H.S. Commager) 2 obs : CON-  
ICE, esp : a military engine 3 : an act of  
CONSTRUCTION, ERECTION; fr. the con-  
aintenance of a church building 4 a : struc-  
ture of construction (the whole complex ~ of  
al organs that makes up the head of a com-  
oil ~ (arrangement of the constituents of the  
to each other) — L.D. Baver) b : TEXTURE,  
d chiefly of textiles (a linen cloth of fine silky

cludes those orientation features which are not evident from  
grain shape alone  
fabric \ v fabricrick; fabricrick; fabricricking; fabrics [F  
fabriker] obs : FRAME, BUILD, CONSTRUCT  
fabri-gant \ 'fabrikən \ n -s, fr. L *fabricant*, *fabricans*,  
pres. part. of *fabricari* : 1 a maker or producer esp. of a com-  
mercial product : MANUFACTURER  
fabri-gate \ -kæt, usu -d- + V, vi -ed/-ing/-s [ME *fabricaten*,  
fr. L *fabricatus*, past part. of *fabricari* — more at FABRIC]  
1 a : to form by art and labor : MANUFACTURE, PRODUCE  
(*fabricated* some of the finest English pottery) (an organiza-  
tion devoted to *fabricating* deluxe editions of the classics)  
b : to form into a whole by uniting parts : CONSTRUCT, BUILD  
(*fabricated* a bridge of steel beams) (planning to ~ a house of  
wholly synthetic materials); often : to build up into a whole by  
uniting interchangeable, standardized parts (*fabricating*  
assemblies on the assembly line) 2 a : to make shape, or  
prepare (parts) according to standardized specification so as  
to be interchangeable (*fabricating* brake assemblies for one of  
the new cars) b : to cause (raw material or stock) to be  
manufactured : SHAPE (*fabricating* sheet steel into plates)  
(what steel to use or how to ~ it — *Dun's Rev.*) 3 a : IN-  
VENT, FORMULATE (philosophers *fabricating* new theories of the  
universe) : CREATE (his brave attempts to ~ something per-  
manent and holy out of his personal animal feelings — T.S.  
Eliot) b (1) : to make up with intent to deceive (*fabricated*  
an involved explanation of his absence) (2) : FORGE SYN see

fabri-ca-tion \ -'kæʃən \ n -s [ME *fabricacion*, fr. L  
*fabrication*, *fabricatio*, fr. *fabricatus* + -ion, -io -ion] 1 : the  
act or process of fabricating; as a : the assembly of materials  
into a structure (~ of a bridge) b : the invention or utter-  
ance of something calculated to deceive (the unconscious ~  
of an honest man trying to put his best foot forward) c : the  
process of converting one form of metal into another (as  
ingots into rolled shapes, rolled shapes into structural mem-  
bers, castings into weldments, wire into springs, forgings into  
gears) 2 : a product of fabrication; as a : FALSEHOOD,  
DECEIT, FGERY (all the past ~s with which he hoped to  
commit forgery) b : a fabricated structure or structural  
element (the whole ~ of the house) SYN see FICTION  
fabrication-in-transit \ -'kæʃən \ n : an arrangement by  
which a continuous through rate is charged by a transporting  
agent (as a railway) for articles that are made up into a new  
form at some point on the way — compare MILLING-IN-  
TRANSIT  
fabri-ca-tive \ 'fabrəkæd-iv \ adj : tending or able to fabricate  
: concerned with manufacture  
fabri-ca-tor \ -'æd-ə(r) : -'æd-ə \ n -s [L, fr. *fabricatus* + -or]  
: one that fabricates; as a : one that invents a false statement  
c : one who commits forgery : LIA, FORGER b : an implement for  
fabricating; *spindle* : a neolithic flint used as a tool for fashion-  
ing other implements c : a workman who shapes, finishes,  
or assembles objects d : a firm or establishment that con-  
verts metal from one form into another — compare FABRICA-  
TION 1c  
fabricature \ n -s obs : CONSTRUCTION, STRUCTURE  
fabric tire \ n : a pneumatic tire having a carcass with a woven  
fabric — compare CORD TIRE  
Fab-ri-kold \ 'fabrəkold \ trademark — used for an imitation  
leather  
fab-ro-ni-a-co-ae \ fa'brɒnɪæ'siə \ n pl, cap [NL, fr. *Fa-*  
*bronia*, type genus (after G.V.M. Fabroni †1822 Ital. naturalist)  
+ -aceae] : family of chiefly tropical mosses (order Hypno-  
bryales) that grow on tree trunks and have erect branches  
and exserted capsules with the operculum beaked  
fab-u-la \ 'fabylə \ n, pl fabu-lae \ -yulə \ [L — more at  
FABLE] : STORY; usu : a traditional tale; FOLKTALE  
fabula pal-li-a-ta \ -'pæl'æd-ə, -'æd-ə \ n, pl fabulae pal-li-  
-at-ae \ -'æd-æ, -'æd-æ \ [L, lit., drama in himations; fr. the Greek  
himations worn by the actors] : an ancient Roman comedy  
based on a Greek model and treating a Greek subject —  
compare FABULA TOGATA  
fabula praetex-ta \ -'præ'tekstə \ -'æd-ə \ n, pl fabulae praetex-  
-t-ae \ -'æd-æ, -'æd-æ \ [L, lit., drama in togas; fr. the togas worn by  
the actors] : an ancient Roman drama with a theme from Roman  
history or legend  
fab-u-lar \ 'fabylə(r) \ adj [L *fabularis*, fr. *fabula* + -aris -ar]  
: like or relating to fable  
fab-u-la-tion \ 'læʃən \ n -s [fabulous + -ation] : the act of  
inventing or retelling false or fantastic tales (unrestrained ~s  
and several otherworldly visions — Susan A. Taubes)  
fabula to-ga-ta \ -'tɒgəd-ə, -'æd-ə \ n, pl fabulae toga-tae  
-at-ae \ -'æd-æ, -'æd-æ \ [L, lit., drama in togas; fr. the togas worn by  
the actors] : an ancient Roman comedy based on a Greek model  
but treating native Roman subjects — compare FABULA  
PALLIATA  
fab-u-la-tor \ 'fabylə'd-ə(r) \ n -s [L, fr. *fabulator* + -or]  
archaic : FABULIST  
fab-u-list \ -'lɪst \ n -s [MF *fabuliste*, fr. L *fabula* tale, fable +  
MF -iste -ist — more at FABLE] 1 : a creator or writer of fables  
esp. that carry a moral lesson 2 obs : a professional teller of  
tales 3 : an inventor of falsehoods : LIA, PREVARICATOR  
fab-u-lize \ -'lɪz \ vi -ed/-ing/-s [L *fabula* + E -ize] : FABLE;  
esp : to give a false account of  
fab-u-lous-ly \ -'lʊsləs-ly \ -'lʊsləs-ly \ -ES [L *fabulositas*, fr. *fabulosus*  
fabulous + -itas -ity] 1 : [fabulous quality or character  
2 archaic : a fabulous statement or tale : FABLE  
fab-u-lous \ 'fabyləs \ adj [ME, fr. L *fabulosus*, fr. *fabula* +  
-osus -ous] 1 : given to telling fables 2 : celebrated or known  
from fables only : belonging to fables alone; not real, actual,  
or historical (the ~ mill which ground old people young —  
Charles Dickens) (the ~ German smith, who made feather  
clothes for flight — Lewis Mumford) 3 a : characteristic of  
fables : like the contents of fables in being marvelous, in-  
credible, absurd, extreme, exaggerated, or approaching the  
impossible (a hero who, after many ~ exploits . . . bolted to  
the Spanish Main — G.B. Shaw) (Lincoln) grows vaguer and  
more ~ as year follows year — H.L. Mencken) b : outstanding  
or remarkable esp. in some acceptable or pleasing quality (a ~  
year for the Republicans — *New Republic*) (the ~ view of the  
mountains from her porch) (~ jewelry) (a career . . . recog-  
nized as the most famous and ~ in U.S. diplomacy — Claude  
Pepper) SYN see FICTITIOUS  
fab-u-lously \ -lʊsləs-ly \ adv : in a fabulous manner  
: to a fabulous degree or extent : VERY,  
EXTREMELY, EXCESSIVELY (~ expensive  
clothes)  
fab-u-lous-ness \ -'lʊsləs-ness \ -ES : the quality or  
state of being fabulous  
fab-u-r-en \ 'fabə(r)ən \ n -s [ME *fabur-*  
*den*, fr. MF *faux-bourdon* — more at  
FAUXBOURDON] : FAUXBOURDON  
fac abbr 1 facsimile 2 factor 3 factory  
4 faculty  
fa-cade \ also fa-cade \ 'fæsɪd, -sæd \ also  
fa'- \ n -s [F *façade*, fr. It *facciata*, fr.  
*faccia* face (fr. assumed *fac* *facia*)  
1 a : the front of a building  
b : a face (as a flank or  
rear facing on a street or court) of a  
building that is given emphasis by  
special architectural treatment 2 : a  
false, superficial, or artificial appearance  
or effect (maintaining a ~ of content-  
ment) (in the winter of 1929 the brilliant ~ of American

d : the part of the insect head lying anterior to the ver-  
tex, above the mouth, and between the compound eyes  
2 archaic : PRESENCE, SIGHT, VIEW (thou fleddest from the ~ of  
Esau — Gen 35:1 (AV)) 3 a : cast of features as expressing  
emotion or character : expression of countenance (a grave  
stern) (turned an angry ~ on his erring son) b : beauty or  
glory of countenance (in ~ far exceeding her sisters) (the  
Lord make his ~ shine upon thee — Num 6:25 (AV)) 4 a : out-  
ward appearance or aspect : SEMBLANCE (the whole village  
presented a ~ of placid contentment) : visible or apparent  
state or condition (his report put a new ~ on the matter);  
also : a cursory or superficial examination or its result (this  
testimony is false on the ~ of it) (on the ~ of your report I  
have no valid objection to raise) b : an outward appearance  
of dignity or prestige or of freedom from abashment, con-  
fusion, anger, or distress (though he was obviously distressed  
he put the best ~ he could on the matter); *bro* : a ruse, a  
PRETENSE c : ASSURANCE, CONFIDENCE, MAINTENANCE, firm-  
ness in spite of adversity; often : brash or bold conduct or outlook  
: EFFRONTERY (how anyone could have the ~ to ask such a  
question) — compare CHEEK, NERVE d : DIGNITY, PRESTIGE (a  
man of considerable ~ in the local community) (trying to save  
~); also : concern for or preservation of one's prestige (~ is  
sometimes a major consideration in diplomatic negotiations)  
5 a : GRIMACE, MOU, esp : an expression of distaste (made a  
~ at the taste of the medicine) b : MASK (the children bought  
some funny ~s for the party) c : facial makeup (she'll be here  
as soon as she gets her ~ on) 6 a : the surface of something  
esp. where only one surface is commonly considered (fast  
moving over the ~ of the water) (driven from the ~ of the  
earth) b (1) : the physical features (as of a country) (2) obs  
: a description of a country in its physical features 7 : a front,  
upper, or outer surface or a surface presented to view or re-  
garded as principal; as a : the front of anything having two or  
four sides — opposed to BACK; usu. distinguished from side  
b : the facade esp. of a building c : an exposed surface of  
rock (as in a wall or a cliff) d : one of the broad surfaces of a  
coin : an obverse or reverse (lettering on the edge as well as on  
the face of a coin); also : the obverse of a currency note e : the  
tail of a fish or a leaf with black enamel ~ and ~ are  
raised gold figures 12 : any of the plane surfaces that bound  
a polyhedron (as a crystal) or other geometrical solid g : the  
grille of a hot-air or cold-air register 8 : a side or surface  
dressed, finished, or specially prepared : a : the principal  
dressed surface (as of a plate, disk, or pulley) b : the dressed  
side of a board finished only on one surface; sometimes : the  
side having the better appearance or quality when both are  
dressed c : the right side (as of cloth or leather); esp : the  
front side of a fabric in which that side is distinguished from  
the back by differences of finish, weave, or appearance  
d : the imbedded or printed side of something (as a document  
or a leaf bearing a map or illustration) (a blank ~) e : the  
surface of the head of a cutting tool b : the striking  
surface of the head of a hammer or golf club c : the  
grinding surface of a molar tooth d (1) : the uppermost part  
of a relief printing surface (as type or a plate) that receives the  
ink and transfers it to the paper — see TYPE (2) : TYPEFACE —  
often used in combination (boldface) (lightface) 10 a : the  
end or wall of a mine tunnel, drift, or excavation at which  
work is progressing or was last done : BREAST — called also  
working face b : the working surface of a pit or quarry  
11 a : the part of the acting surface of a gear tooth that  
projects beyond the pitch line b : the width of a pulley or the  
length of a gear tooth from end to end c : the side of a  
carnegie's plane 12 : astrology 13 : FACE CARD — used  
chiefly in the expression neither ace nor face 14 : FACE  
VALUE 15 : a cut made in a pine or other tree from which  
resin exudes 16 : FACE-OFF  
FAC COUNTENANCE, VISAGE, PHYSIOGNOMY, MUG, PUSS: these  
six nouns can all designate the front part of the head including  
the mouth, nose, eyes, cheeks, and, usu., the forehead. FACE  
is the most general, having the common meaning of the group  
(a person with a pale face) (a dog with white markings about  
the face) COUNTENANCE, applied only to the human face,  
stresses appearance, esp. as revealing or seeming to reveal an  
inner condition, as thoughts, character, mood, or frame of  
mind (their hideous countenances were all bloody and sweaty  
— Charles Dickens) (an expressive countenance) (something of  
dignity in his countenance — Jane Austen) (a benign coun-  
tenance) (serious illness and suffering stared from his dark  
countenance — A.C. Cole) In an older use it can mean a nor-  
mal, composed expression and suggest a composed state (far  
beyond them all in person, countenance, air, and walk — Jane  
Austen) VISAGE, a bookish term very close to COUNTENANCE  
in meaning, stresses appearance and often suggests attention  
to the shape and proportion of the face or to the general  
impression of character or frame of mind it gives, often  
distinctive or esp. significant (the very visage of a man in  
love — Edna S. V. Millay) (more horrible and cruel than the  
visages of the wildest savages — Charles Dickens) (withered,  
wrinkled, and loathsome of visage — Oscar Wilde) PHYSIO-  
GNOMY is chiefly used when the interest is the contours of face,  
shape of features, or characteristic expression as indicating  
race, temperament, or general character; it is applied today,  
however, more frequently to the distinguishing aspect or  
features of things other than the face (a man of saturnine  
physiognomy) (a few of many features from two to three  
thousand years old which have given Chinese civilization a  
physiognomy all its own — A.L. Kroeber) MUG has a humorous  
intent in suggesting an ugly, though usu. not displeasing,  
physiognomy (getting your mug in the papers is one of the  
shameful ways of making a living — Norman Mailer) PUSS,  
Irish in origin, is as symptomatic as any of a wealth of slang  
words (map, kisser, pan, mush) applying to the face or the  
central area of it, the nose and mouth, and signifying pretty  
much what the tenor of the remark containing it would sug-  
gest, from a mere synonym for FACE to a humorous or grim  
implication of ugliness or offensiveness (she put on a very  
sour puss when she saw the priest along with me — Frank  
O'Connor)  
— in the face of or in face of : in opposition to ; in defi-  
ance of; DESPITE (succeed in the face of great difficulties) (the  
aggression was seen in face of all evidence as a defensive war)  
— to one's face : in one's presence or so that one is fully  
aware of what is going on : OPENLY, FRANKLY, BOLDLY  
face \ 'vəh-ed/-ing/-s [ME *facen*, fr. *face*, n.] vi 1 : to  
confront, confront, or maintain impudently, brashly, or  
with excessive assurance : BROWBEAT, BULLY — now usu. used  
with down : put ~ on the ~ with which the faced down all  
opposition in the club) (determined to ~ out the situation he  
answered all questions curtly) 2 a : to stand or sit opposite  
to : occupy a position with the face toward (the audience  
faced the speaker) (he stood facing the window) (a large  
mirror faced the door) b : to face-to-face with (they faced  
one another for the last time); often : to be on the page op-  
posite to (the color plate facing page 857) c : to front on or



facade 1a

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

V6



brisque \ˈbrɪsk, ˈbrɛsk\ n -s [F]: an ace or a ten in certain card games (as bezique) in which the ten ranks between the ace and the king

briss v of BERTH

bristle \ˈbrɪsl\ n -s [ME *bristil*, *brustel*, fr. *brust* *bristle*, f. OE *byrst*; akin to OHG *brust*, *borst* *bristle*, ON *brust* *bristle*, L *fastigium* top, extremity, Skt *bhr̥ṣṣi* spike, point] 1: short stiff coarse hair 2: something resembling a bristle: a a: any of various animal structures similar to hair (as a small fine feather) b: the stiff short hair of a plant c: the manufactured material used in the face of a hairbrush

bristle \ˈv b ɪstlɪd; brɪstlɪd; brɪstlɪŋ\ -s(ə)lɪŋ, -lɪŋ -lɪŋ -lɪŋ 1: to rise or stand stiff or erect like bristles c: to bristle with fierce eyes and scales *bristling* in defiance — T. E. Coziney (the) *bristles* of his silvery mustache *bristled* aggressively — D. G. Geraghty (the) *bristles* of *animal* to raise the *bristles* (as in anger) (the dog *bristled* as the stranger approached) b of a person: to assume an aggressive appearance or attitude (I was a little annoyed and *bristled* slightly — A. W. Long) (that sort of antagonism which makes men ~ — Francis Hackett) 3 a: to become covered with many closely assembled objects thrusting as if aggressively straight upward (the river bank ~s with factories — *Amer. Guide Series: Pa.*) (a hundred room house ... its roof *bristling* with chimneys — *New Yorker*) b: to be very noticeably full of a particular kind of thing — used with *up* (with his rucksack *bristling* with test tubes — E. S. Shogren) (articles which *bristled* with dark insinuations — Ruth P. Randall) *bristled* with ... enthusiasm — J. C. Trewin) (speeches ~ *bristling* with quotations and citations — Varian) c: to bristle with *v i*: to react like bristles — sometimes used with *up* (a cock *bristling* up his crest) 2: to furnish with bristles: attach bristles to 3: to make bristly: RUFFLE

bristle \ˈv b -ed/-ɪŋ-s\ [ME *brystyllen*] dial Brit: to scorch or parch esp. in cooking

bristle-bird \ˈv -ə\ n: any of three Australian birds (genus *Dasyornis*) that resemble wrens and have two or three pairs of strong recurved bristles at the angles of the mouth

bristle cell n: HAIR CELL

bristlecone fir \ˈv -ə\ n: a SANTA LUCIA FIR

bristlecone pine \ˈv -ə\ n: an upright pine (*Pinus aristata*) of the western U.S. that includes the oldest living things (some *bristlecone* pines are demonstrably over 4500 years old)

bristled -t -sld\ adj [ME, fr. *bristil*, *bristle* + -ed] embrowned with bristles on the ridge of the back (a boar rampant argent, tusked, and ~ or)

bristle fern n 1: any fern of the genus *Trichomanes* with coarse pinnatifid fronds — called also *filmy fern* 2: HOLLY FERN B

bristly grass n [so called fr. the long bristle beneath each spikelet]: a grass of the genus *Setaria*

bristly-leaved -s (ə)lɪd\ adj: being without bristles

bristly rat n: SPINY RAT I

bristletail \ˈv -tɪl\ n: 1: a wingless insect of the orders Thysanura and Entomophila bearing two or three segmented filaments at the end of the body — compare LEPSIMA 2: RUDDY DUCK

bristle-thighed curlew \ˈv -ə\ n: a curlew (*Numenius tahitiensis*) with points like bristles on its thigh feathers that breeds in western Alaska and winters chiefly in Polynesia

bristle worm n: a segmented worm of the class Chaetopoda

bristlewort \ˈv -wɜːt\ n: a plant of the family Centropideaceae

bristly -ness \ˈv -s(ə)lɪnɪs, -lɪn\ -n -es: the quality or state of being bristly

bristling pres part of BRISTLE

bristling var of BRISLING

bristly \ˈv -lɪ\ adj -ER/-EST 1 a: consisting of or like bristles (a bristly fly) (a short ~ mane) (a ~ brown mustache — S. H. Adams) (frowning ~ brows — Lucy M. Montgomery) 2: thickly set with bristles (a ~ skin) (a ~ shrub) 2: tending to bristle easily: BELLIGERENT (a man with a ~ temperament) (this aura of ~ independence — *Time*)

bristly carrot n: RATTLESNAKE WEED 2

bristly crowfoot or bristly buttercup n: a hairy American buttercup (*Ranunculus pennsylvanicus*) with sharp-beaked fruits

bristly foxtail n: YELLOW FOXTAIL

bristly greenbrier n: a greenbrier (*Smitax hispida*) with pliant bristly greenish prickles

bristly ground squirrel n: an African ground squirrel (*Xerus setosus*) with coarse bristly hair

bristly locust n: a shrub (*Robinia hispida*) of eastern No. America with bristly stems and large clusters of showy pink flowers — called also *moss locust*, *rose acacia*

bristly ox tongue n: a European weed (*Picris echioides*) adventive in eastern No. America with bristly foliage and yellow flowers

bristly sarsaparilla n: a bristly American herb (*Aralia hispida*) with black fruit and medicinal bark having properties like those of sarsaparilla

bristol \ˈbrɪstl\ adj, usu cap [fr. *Bristol*, England]: of or pertaining to Bristol

bristol -t -s 1 or bristol ware usu cap B: ceramic ware produced in or about Bristol, England: as a bristol delft usu cap B: 17th and 18th century tin-enamelled usu. blue and white earthenware b or bristol porcelain usu cap B: an 18th century soft paste porcelain containing soapstone and distinguishable from early Worcester porcelain c or bristol porcelain usu cap B: hard paste porcelain forming a direct continuation of Plymouth porcelain and produced about 1770-1780 2 or bristol board: cardboard with a smooth surface suitable for writing or printing, generally of 1/1000-inch thickness or more

bristol fashion adj, usu cap B: in good order: SHIPSHAPE

bristol-pick-and-spas shipshape and Bristol fashion — JACK LUSBY

bristol glass n, usu cap B: a semopaque glass of various colors, notably deep blue, used for decorative glassware and commonly painted with floral designs

bristol glaze n, usu cap B: a lead-free and usu. zinc-containing ceramic glaze used on faience and stoneware

bristle -sure also brizure \brɪzʃə(r)\ n -s [F *brusure*, lit., break, break, fr. OF, fr. *brister* to break — more at *break*] B

CADENCY MARK: DIFFERENCE

it or brist \brɪt\ n -s [modif. of Corn *br̥ythel* mackerel, lit., speckled, fr. *br̥yth* speckled + -el (dim. suffix); akin to W *brith* speckled] 1: the young of the common herring B 2: any of the minute marine animals, the minute marine animals, largely crustaceans (Entomostraca) and teropods, upon which the whelk whales feed 3: any of the silversides

it -t -n \brɪt -n also -lɪt -n or -ɪd -n\ n -s usu cap [alter. (influenced by *Britain* Great Britain) of *Bristol*] obs: BRITON

tan -nɪə \brɪˈtʌniə, -nɪə\ n -s usu cap [fr. *Briantia*, poetic name for Great Britain, fr. L]: a representation of a female figure usu. seated and with helmet and trident that is symbolic of Britain or Great Britain and the dominions

tan -nɪə metal or britannia n [fr. *Briantia* Great Britain] a silver-white alloy of tin, antimony, copper, and often also lead and bismuth that is similar to pewter and was formerly used for domestic utensils

tan -nɪə -v -nɪə -nɪə\ adj, usu cap [alter. of *Briantia* Great Britain]

(as in *Gallicism*): a characteristic feature of British English esp. as contrasted with American English (as *waistcoat* contrasted with *vest*, *navy with day laborer*, to register luggage with to check baggage, to engage a servant with to hire a **Fervant**, tyre with tire, kerb with curb)  
**British** \ˈbrɪt-ɪʃ-, -ɪl-, ɪʃ- *adj.* usu cap [ME *Britische*, *Bryttysche*; OE *Brēttisc*, *Bryttisc*, *Brittisc*, of Celt origin; akin to W Brython Briton] 1 : of relating to, or characteristic of the original inhabitants of Britain 2 : of relating to, or characteristic of Great Britain or its inhabitants 3 : of relating to, or characteristic of the British Commonwealth c : of, relating to, or characteristic of England — **brit-ish-ness** *n* -es usu cap  
**british** \ˈbrɪ-tɪʃ- *n*-es cap 1 a : the Celtic language of the ancient Britons b : BRITISH ENGLISH 2 pl in constr a : the people native to or naturalized in Great Britain b : the primarily British people of the British Commonwealth c : the people of the British Commonwealth  
**british alpine n**, usu cap B & sometimes cap A : a goat of a strain that is sometimes considered a separate breed developed in England by interbreeding Swiss Alpine goats with native stock  
**british anti-tie-low-isite** \ˈlūə-sīṭ- *n*, usu cap B [*anti-* + *low-isite*] : DIMERCAPROL  
**british association thread n**, usu cap B&A : a screw thread with an angle of 47½° and rounded crests and roots that is used chiefly in Great Britain and other European countries for very small screws  
**british co-lum-bi-a** \ˌwɔːkə-ləm-bē- *adj.* usu cap B & C [fr. *British Columbia*, province of Canada] : of or from the province of *British Columbia* ; of the kind or style prevalent in *British Columbia* — **BRITISH COLUMBIAN**  
**british co-lumb-i-an** \-ən- *adj.*, usu cap B & C 1 : of, relating to, or characteristic of the province of *British Columbia* 2 : of, relating to, or characteristic of the people of *British Columbia*  
**british columbian** \- *n*, cap B & C : a native or inhabitant of *British Columbia*  
**british dollar n**, usu cap B : DOLLAR 2d  
**british english n**, usu cap B & E : the native language of most inhabitants of England; esp : a variety of English characteristic of England and clearly distinguishable from those varieties used in the U.S., Australia, and elsewhere — compare AMERICAN ENGLISH, AUSTRAL ENGLISH, AUSTRALIAN ENGLISH  
**rit-ish-er** \ˈbrɪd-ɪʃ-(r)-, -ɪl-, ɪʃ- *n*-s cap B : BRITON 2 : one who speaks or uses *British Guianese* also *british guianan* see GUIANESE  
**GUAYANA** \- *cap* B&G [*British Guiana*, former name of Guyana] + *E*-see also GUYANESE  
**british guianese** also *british guianan* \- *n*, cap B & G = GUYANESE  
**british gum n**, usu cap B : DEXTRIN; esp : dextrin produced by heating starch sometimes with small amounts of acid or alkali and used as size for paper and textiles and as an adhesive  
**british honduran** see HONDURAN *adj.* usu cap B & H [*British Honduras*, country in Central America + *E*-an] 1 : of, relating to, or characteristic of *British Honduras* 2 : of, relating to, or characteristic of the people of *British Honduras*  
**british honduran** \- *n*, cap B & H : a native or inhabitant of *British Honduras*  
**british-ism** \-ɪz- *n* shiz-əm \-ɪz- *n*-s usu cap 1 : BRITICISM 2 a : the distinctive qualities of the people of the British Commonwealth b : one of these qualities  
**rit-ish-ly adv**, usu cap : in a British way (a ~ calm bystander)  
**ritish mold n**, usu cap B : a mold of the genus *Breittanomyces*  
**ritish oak n**, usu cap B : ENGLISH OAK  
**ritish thermal unit n**, usu cap B : the quantity of heat required to raise the temperature of one avoirdupois pound of water one degree Fahrenheit at or near 39.2°F, its temperature of maximum density, being equal to about 0.252 kilogram calorie — abbr. *Btu*  
**ritish warm n**, usu cap B : a short double-breasted overcoat worn by British army officers  
**rito** \ˈbrɪ-d- *adj.* *adv.* *adverb form*, cap [Prob. fr. L *Brito*] 1 : of or belonging to the Britons and (*Britio-Roman*) 2 : *British* and (*Britio-Japanese*) 3 : *Britain* (*Britiocentric*)  
**rit-on** \ˈbrɪ-to̞-also -iton or -id-ən- *n*-s cap [ME *Bretton*, *Bryton*, fr. MF & L; MF *bretton*, fr. L *Britton*-, *Britto*, *Britton*-, *Britto*, of Celt origin; akin to W Brython Briton] 1 : a member of one of the peoples inhabiting Britain previous to the Anglo-Saxon invasions, the majority being presumably Cymric Celts intermixed with earlier non-Indo-European-speaking peoples 2 : a native or subject of Great Britain; esp : ENGLISH-  
**rits** *pl* of **BRIT**  
**rits-ka** or **britz-ska** \ˈbrɪchko-, -itsko- *n*-s [G *britschka*, *britzka*, fr. Pol *byrzycka*, perh. *brzydz*: G *harutshe*, *birutsche* *arouche* — more at BAROUCHE] : a long open horse-drawn carriage with a folding top over the rear seat and a front seat facing the rear  
**rit-tar-y** *pl* of **BRIT**  
**rit-tar-y** \ˈbrɪt-nē-, -ni- or **brittany blue** *n*-es often cap [*Britany* (fr. *Brittany*, region of northwestern France)] : a moderate greenish blue that is bluer and paler than average peacock and bluer and slightly paler than larkspur  
**ritany spaniel n**, usu cap B : a rather tall active short-tailed variety of a French breed having a smooth or slightly wavy coat of orange and white or liver and white somewhat mingled on cheeks, forelegs, and thighs that was developed by interbreeding pointers with a panicle of Brittany was produce a competent bird dog with an action suggestive of a setter.  
**rittle** \ˈbrɪd-, -it-ɪd- *adj.* [ME *britil*, akin to OE *brōtan* break, OHG *brōdi* frail, ON *brjōta* to break, Sk *brhṛna* embryo] 1 a (1) : easily broken, cracked, or snapped : apt break or snap easily esp. under very slight bending or flexion (~ clay) (~ glass) (as ~ as an eggshell) (2) of metal or alloy : having very low malleability or ductility : easily disrupted, overturned, damaged, or disintegrated FRAIL (a ~ promise) (~ honor — Shak.) (a ~ marriage)  
**ritty** \ˈbrɪ-ti- *adj.* *adjective* handling : DIFFICULT (a ~ personality)  
**SHARP-BREASTED LIGHTING** (the light, ~ tones of an orchestra playing the ~ Asia & the Americas) (the ~ staccato of drums — H.A. Sinclair) (could hardly understand what he said to him, so ~ and sharp was the sound — Pearl Buck)  
**rit** : PERISHABLE, MORTAL b : TRANSITORY, EVANESCENT : lacking warmth, depth, or generosity of spirit : COLD, CALCULATING (she was harder, more ~, than Effie ever was — Rex Gamells) (a ~ and selfish woman who calculates her ends coldly and by sheer poise and self-possession usually gets her y — Chad Walsh) (the ~, cynical, beautiful legends of ~ — Gilbert Highet) — **brit-it-le-ly** or **brit-ly** -l- *adv.* (-l-)  
**rit-tle** \-t- *adj.* *adjective* brit-it-less-ness -l- *adj.* (-l-) *n*-es -l- *adj.* (-l-) *adv.* *adverb* by adding sugar to the point of ramelization, adding nuts, or adding coling  
**rit bones n pl** but nut or pl in constr : FRAGILITAS OSSUM  
**ritebush** \ˌrɪt- *n* : a desert plant of the genus *Encelia* mill Compositae) of the southwestern U.S. and adjacent Mexico having brittle stems, small crowded leaves, and yellow wax and containing a principle toxic to other plants  
**rit-fora** *n* : FRAGILE FERN  
**rit-makeria** \ˌrɪt-mək- *n* : a tropical American fern (*Adiantum*



combination of the two  
 brush coat *n*, a woman's short coucoat or wraparound dress  
 brun do-ré \brun'do:ré, -dó:ré/ *n*, pl brun do-rés or bruns dorés \-nd-, -áz/ [F. lit., golden brown]: OLIVE WOOD  
 brune \brun, -brén/ *n* s [F. more at BRUNET]: BRUNET  
 brun-neil-la \brun'neil-la, -ya/ *n*, cap [NL, fr. G. Brunelli, 18th cent. Ital. botanist + NL -la]: a small genus (coextensive with the family Brunelliaceae of the order Ranales) of tropical American trees having unisexual panicle apetalous flowers and follicular fruits  
 brun-net or brun-nette \('brun'net, usu -ed + V) adj [F. brunet, masc. & brunette, fem. brunet, fr. OF, fr. brun brown, fr. ML brunus, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG brün brown — more at BROWN]: of or marked by brown or relatively dark pigmentation: *a* of hair and eyes: BROWN, BLACK *b* of skin: BROWN, OLIVE  
 brunet or brunette \-n-s [F. brunet, masc. & brunette, fem., fr. brunet, brunette, adj.]: a person with brunet hair or skin or both  
 brun-fel-sia \brun'felzē/ *n*, cap [NL, fr. Otto Brunfels †1534 Ger. botanist + NL -ia]: a genus of tropical American shrubs (family Solanaceae) that have alternate entire leaves and a fleshy fruit like a berry and that are commonly grown in greenhouses for their flowers  
 brung substant part of BRING  
 bru-ni-zem \brun'zēm/ *n* s [origin unknown]: a soil of the prairies developed from loess and occurring extensively in Iowa  
 brun-nous \brun'noos or brun-nous-cent \('brun'nes'nt/ adj [irreg. fr. ML brunus brown + E -ous or -escent — more at BRUNET]: dark brown — used chiefly scientifically  
 brun-ner's gland \brun'nerz-/ *n*, usu cap B [after Johann C. Brunner †1827 Swiss anatomist]: any of certain compound racemose glands in the submucous layer of the duodenum secreting alkaline mucus and a potent proteolytic enzyme  
 brun-nich-la \('brun'nikē/ *n*, cap [NL, fr. M.T. Brinnich †1827 Dan. naturalist + NL -ia]: a small genus of herbaceous vines (family Polygonaceae) having climbing tendrils, broad leaves, and inconspicuous racemose flowers — see BUCKWHEAT VINE  
 brun-nich's murre also brünnich's guillemot \brun'niks-/ *n*, usu cap B [after M.T. Brinnich]: THICK-BILLED MURRE  
 brunna race \brun-, -nen-/ *n*, usu cap B [fr. Brunn (now Brno), Czechoslovakia]: an Upper Paleolithic people related to the Cro-Magnon but differing in having shorter stature, narrower face and head, and heavier brow ridges, orig. based on skeletal material found associated with Solutrean artifacts at Brno and Predmost, Czechoslovakia, and subsequently recognized in fossil finds in other parts of Europe, in No. Africa, and in western Asia and as a component in modern man  
 brunna's membrane \brun'z-/ *n*, usu cap B [after Albert von Brunn †1895 Ger. anatomist]: the part of the nasal mucous membrane that serves as an organ of smell  
 bru-no man \brun'no-/ *n* [Bruno (shovel), a hand shovel used to move loose ore]: a worker who uses a hand shovel to move loose ore (as to an ore car)  
 bru-no-nia \brun'no-ni-a, -ni-a/ *n*, cap [NL, irreg. fr. Robert Brown †1858 Scot. botanist + NL -ia]: a genus (coextensive with the family Brunoniaceae of the order Campanulales) of Australian herbs with radical leaves and a long-stalked globular head of showy blue flowers  
 brunswick \brun'zwik-/ *wik*, -wēk/ adj, usu cap [fr. Brunswick (Braunschweig), Germany]: of or from the city of Brunswick, Germany: of the kind or style prevalent in Brunswick  
 brunswick black *n*, often cap 1st B [trans. of G. Braunschweiger schwarz]: a black varnish usu. similar in composition to black japan  
 brunswick blue *n*, often cap 1st B [trans. of G. Braunschweiger blau]: 1: a pigment consisting of a mixture of an iron blue with a large amount of barium sulfate 2: PRUSSIAN BLUE  
 brunswick green *n*, often cap B [trans. of G. Braunschweiger grün]: 1: a green pigment consisting of a copper salt (as a basic copper chloride or a basic copper carbonate) — called also old brunswick green 2: CHROME GREEN 1b 2: any of three greens: *a*: DEEP BRUNSWICK GREEN *b*: MIDDLE BRUNSWICK GREEN *c*: LIGHT BRUNSWICK GREEN  
 brunswick stew *n*, often cap B [fr. Brunswick county, Va., where it originated]: 1: a hunter's stew made with squirrel and rabbit and onion 2: a stew of two or more meats with vegetables (as game chicken with corn, okra, and matatoes)  
 brunt \brunt/ *n* s [ME] 1: *a*bs *a*: a forceful onset: a sudden or violent assault (the garrison withstood the ~ on the castle) *b*: a sudden outburst or effort 2: the main force, shock, or stress: the impact, strain, or violence calling for greatest resistance (employees in the textile and metal trades exposed to the full ~ of foreign competition — J.A. Hobson) (the ~ of the struggle with the German army fell upon the Russians — Walter Lippmann) SYN see IMPACT  
 brunt \brunt, -rant/ dial Brit part of BURN  
 brush \brʌʃ/ *n* s [F. orig. attrib. ME brusche, fr. MF broce, fr. OF perh. of Celt. origin; akin to OIr. froech heather — more at BRIER] 1: BRUSHWOOD 2: *a*: scrub vegetation *b*: land covered with scrub vegetation: BRUSHLAND — often used with the (helped work cattle in the Florida ~ — F.B. Gipson)  
 3 chiefly Austral.: a dense growth of forest and undergrowth  
 brush \-v/ *vi* -ED/-ING/-ES 1: to clear (land) of brush and undergrowth (~ the back forty) 2: to use cut-off branches as supports for (vines and plants) (peas should be ~ed)  
 brush \-n/ *n* s [ME brusche, fr. MF broisse, fr. OF broce brushwood] 1: *a*: a hand-operated or power-driven tool or device composed of bristles set into a back or a handle or attached to a roller and designed or adapted for such uses as sweeping, scrubbing, painting, and smoothing (a floor ~) (a wire ~) *b*: one of a pair of long slender devices of this kind with flexible wire bristles used for making soft rhythmic hissing sounds on a cymbal or snare drum esp. in a dance band 2: something resembling or suggesting a brush (a thick ~ of wavy hair): *a*: a heavily haired bushy tail (as that of a fox or squirrel or of certain dogs or cats) (the fox had a handsome red ~) *b*: 1) an herb (*Lepachys columifera*) of the western U.S. resembling a cressleaf (2) the young, strobile or gynoecium of the hop (3) a tuft of hairs (as on the tip of the wheat kernel) (4) the inflorescence of the broomcorn *c*: a feather tuft worn on a hat (as a cock-green Tyrolean ~ in my hat — Saul Bellow) 3: *a*: an electrical conductor commonly in the form of a bundle of copper strips or wire gauze or a block of carbon serving as a means of connection by sliding contact between a stationary and a moving part of an electric circuit (as between line and armature of a generator or a motor) *b*: BRUSH DISCHARGE 4: [brush] *a*: an act or instance of brushing (he gave his old suit a quick ~) *b*: a quick light touch: a fleeting momentary contact (she felt the ~ of his coat as he hurried by) *c* (1): a light stroke with one foot, toe, or heel along the floor in any direction in dancing (2): a low ballet kick in which the sole of the foot strikes the floor *d* slang: a quiet and decisive rejection or dismissal: BRUSH-OFF

over or across: touch gently against in passing (my left hand ~ed the wall and found the doorknob) — Hartley Howard  
 b: AFFECT, TOUCH (the spirit of compromise which responsibility brings has not ~ed him — Time) 4: to beat (fibers) lightly to cause fraying or roughening rather than cutting in papermaking 5: dial chiefly Eng: TRIM, CLIP (~ing the shrubbery) ~ *vi* 1: to make the contact or motion or perform the action of brushing something (other stewards and messmen were scouring, scrubbing ~ing, mopping — Nation's Business) 2: of a horse to interfere slightly so as to produce abrasion  
 brush \-v/ *adj* [brush]: resembling a brush esp. in being bristly or cut relatively short and of even length (a ~ haircut) (a ~ mustache)  
 brush \-v/ *vb* -ED/-ING/-ES [ME bruschen to rush, drive (influenced in meaning by 3 & 4) brush], fr. MF brosser to dash through underbrush, fr. broce, brosse, broisse underbrush] *vi*: to move so lightly or deftly as to be scarcely perceptible: move so as to graze, skim over, or sweep something (~ past people quickly without hitting them carelessly with your umbrella — Agnes M. Miall) ~ *vt*: to force (a horse) to top speed over a short distance  
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COM B - 3